CLAIMS

1. Method for setting basic means of access for operation of devices of which the operation is controllable by electronic means, characterized in that it includes the steps:

Establishment (110) of a link (19) between a personal authentication system (16) supplied with encryption data and a logic system (20) able to control the electronic device control.

Checking (120, 140) of the data in the authentication system (16) prior to operation of the device.

Assignment of predetermined means of access to the device associated with the authentication system (16).

Enabling (150) of the means of access predetermined for the authentication system (16) dependent on the result of the check.

2. Method in accordance with Claim 1, characterized in that the means of access comprise at least one of the following means: Disable operation of the device (12), enable operation of the device (12), or enable configuration of the device (12).

3. Method in accordance with Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the link (19) is made without need for intermediate software layers.

4. Method in accordance with the preceding Claim, including the step of reading at least one of the following features from the authentication system (16): Firmware

programs, device-specific command sequences for execution of specific device-specific functions, cryptographic keys, cryptographic algorithms, individual decision-making logic.

5.   Method in accordance with one of the preceding Claims 1 to 4 for configuration of devices (12) by authorized persons, wherein after successful authentication device-specific configuration data are downloaded into the device (12) from the authentication system (16) in accordance with one of the two preceding Claims or over a network.

6.   Device (12) for execution of the method in accordance with one of the preceding Claims.

7.   Authentication system (16), created for authentication of a person or a group of people, in the method in accordance with one of the preceding Claims 1 to 4.

8.   Authentication system (16) in accordance with one of the preceding Claims, characterized in that it is implemented in the form of a SmartCard.

9.   System for setting basic means of access for operation of devices (12) of which the operation is controllable by electronic means, including at least one device (12) in accordance with Claim 6, and an authentication system (16) in accordance with Claim 7 or 8.

10. Computer program, containing program code areas for the execution or preparation for execution of the steps of the method in accordance with one of Claims 1 to 4, when the program is installed in a computer.